Synopsis of Ph.D. Thesis Entitled

Social Realism in Select Dalit and Afro-American Autobiographies: A Comparative Study.

Submitted to
Swami Raman and Teerth Marthwada University, Nanded-431606 (MS).

For the award of the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) in English under the faculty of Humanities.

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July-2023

Social Realism in the Select Dalit and Afro-American Autobiographies: A Comparative Study.

Introduction:

The present research work entitled **Social Realism in the select Dalit and Afro-American Autobiographies: A Comparative Study** is an attempt to study social realism in the select autobiographies. The research will be a comparative study in the select Dalit and Afro-American autobiographies. For the purpose of the study, Indian Dalit and Black writers have been selected.

Omprakash Valmiki (1950-2013) was a well-known writer famous for his autobiography called *Joothan* which is considered as a milestone in Dalit literature in India. *Joothan* is originally written in Hindi language and then it was translated into English in 2003. The autobiography is based on the struggle of the protagonist belonging to the downtrodden community for social justice. *The Prisons We Broke* by the renowned Marathi woman writer Baby Kamble is an autobiography. The work is translated into English by Maya Pandit. The autobiography describes the rituals, customs, pains and struggle of everyday life of the "Mahar" community in Mahatrastra. Third autobiography selected for the study is "*Baluta*" (1978) by Daya Pawar (Dagdu Maruti Pawar 1935-1996) who was a Marathi author. The autobiography is originally written in Marathi language but later on it was translated into English by Jerry Pinto in 2015. The work is based on rural untouchablity and writer's struggle for social equality and justice.

The Afro-American autobiographies entitled *Up from Slavery* by Booker T. Washinton, and *Long Walk for Freedom* by Nelson Mandela have been selected for the present research work. Nelson Mandela describes his struggle for equality and his struggle for the justice of black people. Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 28 years for his struggle for the rights of black people. Another autobiography selected for the research is *I know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou. These autobiographies are based on the suffering of black people on the basis of colour.

Research Methodology:

This research study is based on descriptive and interpretative research methodology. The present research work is a qualitative research work. The study of the research is based on primary sources of the selected autobiographies and secondary material including books, journals, research articles, papers, thesis and related research available on websites. The research aims to analyze, interpret and explore the select Dalit and Afro–American autobiographies with explication and generalization of social realism based on racism and casteism.

Aims and Objectives of the Research:

1) To study the discrimination in the human society on the basis of caste in Indian society.
2) To study discrimination in the human society on the basis of colour in other societies of the world.
3) To understand social problems of caste and race.
4) To study social realism reflected in the selected autobiographies.
5) To study double marginalization of women in the society.
6) To examine condition of men and women under the hegemony of upper caste.
7) To make comparative study of Indian and other societies.

Hypothesis of the Research Study:

1) It is believed that there are differentiated human values on the basis of caste and colour in the societies throughout the world.
2) It is assumed that there is discrimination in the human society on the basis of caste, creed, gender and colour.
3) The selected autobiographies represent the true social picture of the societies. Throughout the world.
4) It is supposed that Casteism and Racism are the important impediment in the betterment of the world.
5) It is considered that comparison of the two culture is possible.

Review of Literature:

Autobiography is a genre of writing that is based on an individual life story however, so many literary and non-literary figures write their day-today life experiences. Therefore, later on the literary genre autobiography became a part of literature. Hence, a lot of research is done on the autobiographies so far.

The above research title is based on autobiographies of Dalit and Afro-American writers belonging to the downtrodden societies. For the present research work, six autobiographies are selected as mentioned below:

1. Omprakash Valmiki's *Joothan* (1985)
2. *The Prisons We Broke* (2009) by Babytai Kamble
3. *Baluta* (2015) by Daya Pawar

Afro-American autobiographies

4. *Up from Slavery* (1901) by Brooker T. Washington
5. *Long Walk for Freedom*" (1994) by South American President Nelson Mandela
6. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*" (1969) by Maya Angelou.

These autobiographies are well-known in literary world which are based on discrimination of human beings on the basis of caste and colour. On these autobiographies, much research is done. for example *Self and Social a Study* by Singh Poonam, *Political of Caste and Race* by Waghmare Rajendra, *Voice and of the Voiceless a Comparative Study* by Sageera P. M, *Portrayal of Dalit experiences in Dalit Autobiographies, The Study of the autobiographies, Exploring Dalit Experience in Select Autobiographies* by Gora Devendra Kumar, *A struggle for self Identity in the Autobiographies* by Siripuram Srinu and many research articles, papers and thesis of M. Phil and Ph. D are done by research scholars. The present research work will be different from other works since it is a comparative study between the two societies having different cultures and societies. The research work will be an opportunity for the next aspirants who want to pursue their study in this area.

The autobiography *I know Why the Caged Bird Sings* is a popular literary work. The theme brought makes the people are interested to know it. There are many researchers

have studied this autobiography before. The given title finds out an important research gap.

Significance of the Research:

The present research title is based on the social realism in the Dalit and Afro-American autobiographies which will be helpful for the upcoming readers and researchers. The ignored area will be available for study and understand new aspects from the selected autobiographies.

The research will create new ideas in the research world. The research is not only concentrate on the casteism and racism but, it studies condition of women in the male dominated social system, someone said that woman is a slave of slave, it mean that the women are double marginalised, first by the higher caste and the white then their husbands make them inferior. The white people make them more work without paying money or less payment as well exploit to the black people.

Maya Angelou, Nelson Mandela and Booker T. Washington expressed their real experiences, how they made suffered by the white communities how the black depressed by hegemony of the white. The above autobiographer's pen down life experiences of day today life. Other hand Dalit autobiographers tell their individual life story which based on casteism. Dalit autobiographers informed their suffering under the hegemony of upper class Hindu people.

Due to the research new area will be available and new readers can understand reasons of suffering of the Dalit people. Further they understand how the casteism made a strong impediment in empowerment of women as well as depressed class. How, the casteism made powerless by economical, educational, socially, and politically to the dalit people. However, generation of new reader can get knowledge from the research hence; the research is very significant in the area of research world.

Tentative Chapter Scheme:

The present research work will be divided into five chapters. The tentative chapter scheme of the research will be as below:

1. **Chapter 1: Introduction**
2. **Chapter 2: Struggle for Education in *Joothan* and *Up from Slavery***
3. **Chapter 3: Caste Discrimination in *Baluta* and *A Long Walk for Freedom***
4. **Chapter 4: Double Marginalization of Women *The Prisons We Broke* and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings***
5. **First chapter 5: Conclusion**

Conclusion:

After studying all these Dalit and Afro-American autobiographies as for the title is concerned, the autobiographies are based on same elements which depend on the social realism. The synopsis included all the necessary elements that need for a synopsis.

Joothan by Omprakash Valimiki and *Up from Slavery* by T. Washington both are very famous autobiographies in Dalit and Afro-American literary area. These two autobiographies based on casteism and other one based on racism. Both autobiographers present their struggle for education in hegemonic upper caste people and how they suffered a lot due to the casteism and racism that experiences are found in these two works.

The Prisons We Broke by Baby Kamble. It is the first Dalit autobiography written by a woman writer. It is not only written in Marathi but also the autobiography has been translated into many regional languages of the nation. Through the autobiography, Baby Kamble denotes her personal day-today life experiences. The writer suffered a lot due to the caste system and untouchablity at the hands of the so called higher caste people. She is not only marginalized by the caste but she is ignored by her society due to her female gender. In the same way, Maya Angelou in her autobiography *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* narrates her real life experiences which are based on racism. She is also a double marginalized victim of racism and gender discrimination.

Baluta is popular autographical work in Dalit literature. The work is written by Dagdu Maruti Pawar. It is originally written in Marathi language and later it is translated into English by Jerry Pinto in 2015. He suffered a lot due to the Hindu traditional rules and

regulation like caste system and untouchablity. He also mentioned terrible condition of the downtrodden in the society. After the Ambedkarite movement, the depressed people began to struggle against hegemony of upper caste dominancy. *Long Walk for Freedom* is an Afro-American autobiography written by very famous author, Nelson Mandela who was first black president of Africa. Through the work, Mandela narrates his life story as well as journey from a slave to president. He struggles very hard for the rights of black people for which he was imprisoned for a long time for the freedom of the black community.

Bibliography:

1) Primary Sources:

1) Omprakash Valmiki's *Joothan*, ISBN: 0140298266 published in 2000.
2) Babytai Kamble's *The Prisons We Broke*, ISBN:8125033904, publication Date 2009.
3) Daya Pawar's *Baluta*, published date 1978.
4) Booker T. Washington's *Up from Slavery* published date 1900.
5) Nelson Mandela's *Long Walk for Freedom*, published date 1994.
6) Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
6. Secondary Sources:
7. Journal, Research articles, research papers, news papers, Government records, and books etc are used for the research
8. Webliography:

www.wikipedia.org
www.encyclopedia.com
www.wiktionary.org
www.infosys.ogr
www.literature.britishcouncil.org

Application

To
The Deputy Registrar,
PG section,
S. R. M. U. Nanded.

Subject: Application for submission of the Ph. D pre-synopsis.

Respected Sir,

The Research Allocation Committee (RAC) in its meeting held on 15 th July 2021 has allocated **Mr. Sontakke Anil Suresh** as a research scholar to work under my supervision. He has completed his course work as per the university guidelines. You are requested to accept the synopsis for further necessary action.

Thank You.

Yours Sincerely

Research Supervisor

Dr. M. N Pawar
Associate Professor, Dept. English,
KRM Mahila Mahavidhyala,
Nanded.